

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method of monitoring an image handling device communicatively coupled to the Internet, comprising:

obtaining, by a first monitoring computer over the Internet, device information of the image handling device, the device information including (1) status information obtained from sensors of the image handling device, and (2) a device identification of the image handling device;

storing, by the first monitoring computer, the obtained device information;

processing the stored device information by the first monitoring computer to generate a period usage report for the image handling device, wherein the period usage report is based on the status information obtained over a predetermined period of time;

transmitting the usage report over the Internet from the first monitoring computer to a second monitoring computer; and

receiving the usage report by the second monitoring computer,

wherein the first monitoring computer is remote from the image handling device, and the first monitoring computer is the first computer to obtain the device information from the image handling device.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the transmitting step comprises:

transmitting the usage report to the second monitoring computer at a predetermined time or upon the occurrence of a predetermined event.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the image handling device is a copier, and the usage report includes a number of copies made by the copier over the predetermined period.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
translating the usage report into HTML or Excel format.

5. (Previously Presented) A system for monitoring an image handling device communicatively coupled to the Internet, comprising:

means for obtaining, by a first monitoring computer over the Internet, device information of the image handling device, the device information including (1) status information obtained from sensors of the image handling device, and (2) a device identification of the image handling device;

means for storing, by the first monitoring computer, the obtained device information;

means for processing the stored device information by the first monitoring computer to generate a period usage report for the image handling device, wherein the period usage report is based on the status information obtained over a predetermined period of time;

means for transmitting the usage report over the Internet from the first monitoring computer to a second monitoring computer ; and

means for receiving the usage report by the second monitoring computer,

wherein the first monitoring computer is remote from the image handling device, and the first monitoring computer is the first computer to obtain the device information from the image handling device.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 5, wherein the means for transmitting comprises:

means for transmitting the usage report to the second monitoring computer at a predetermined time or upon the occurrence of a predetermined event.

7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 5, wherein the means for processing comprises:

means for generating a usage report for a copier, the usage report including a number of copies made by the copier over the predetermined period.

8. (Original) The system of claim 5, further comprising:

means for translating the usage report into HTML or Excel format.

9. (Previously Presented) A computer program product having a computer usable medium for monitoring an image handling device communicatively coupled to the Internet, comprising:

instructions for obtaining, by a first monitoring computer over the Internet, device information of the image handling device, the device information including (1) status information obtained from sensors of the image handling device, and (2) a device identification of the image handling device;

instructions for storing, by the first monitoring computer, the obtained device information;

instructions for processing by the first monitoring computer the stored device information to generate a period usage report for the image handling device, wherein the

period usage report is based on the status information obtained over a predetermined period of time;

instructions for transmitting the usage report over the Internet from the first monitoring computer to a second monitoring computer; and

instructions for receiving the usage report by the second monitoring computer, wherein the first monitoring computer is remote from the image handling device, and the first monitoring computer is the first computer to obtain the device information from the image handling device.

10. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the instructions for transmitting comprise:

instructions for transmitting the usage report to the second monitoring computer at a predetermined time or upon the occurrence of a predetermined event.

11. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the image handling device is a copier, and the usage report includes a number of copies made by the copier over the predetermined period.

12. (Original) The computer program product of claim 9, further comprising: instructions for translating the usage report into HTML or Excel format.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the processing step comprises:

processing the stored device information to generate the period usage report on one of a monthly and a weekly basis.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 5, wherein the means for processing comprises:

means for processing the stored device information to generate the period usage report on one of a monthly and a weekly basis.

15. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the processing step comprises:

processing the stored device information to generate the period usage report on one of a monthly and a weekly basis.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the second monitoring computer and the image handling device are arranged in a same local area network.